

Topic: Identifying TAA/ATAA Certified Employers

Are you an administrator for a health plan that is state-qualified for the HCTC or are your enrollees eligible for HCTC through COBRA or individual plans? If you answered yes, then you may be interested in providing product information to employers that have employees or former employees who may be eligible for the HCTC.*

What Does This Mean for You?

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA) website identifies employers whose impacted employees are certified to receive Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) or Alternate Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA) benefits and may be eligible for the HCTC.

If you are a Health Plan Administrator (HPA) that offers HCTC state-qualified or individual products: You can refer to the ETA website to connect yourself with employers to provide information regarding the products you have to offer. This gives you an opportunity to present your products to a population that might not be aware of it as an HCTC health plan option.

If you are a COBRA Third Party Administrator (TPA): This is an opportunity for you to find out if employers you represent for COBRA benefits have TAA/ATAA-certified workers or are going through the certification process. This may help you predict an increase in COBRA volumes.

TAA/ATAA Certification Process

When a company is facing layoffs due to foreign trade, their impacted workers may be eligible to receive TAA or ATAA benefits. The company or worker group must first file a TAA/ATAA petition on behalf of the workers with the DOL and the state trade coordinator or dislocated worker unit in each state where layoffs occurred. The DOL reviews the petition and determines if the worker group can be certified as eligible to receive TAA or ATAA benefits. Individuals that are part of a TAA/ATAA-certified worker group are eligible to apply for benefits under the TAA or ATAA program. To learn more about the TAA/ATAA petition and certification process, please use the following DOL ETA link:

<http://www.doleta.gov/programs/factsht/taa.cfm>

Identifying TAA/ATAA Certified Employers

To identify employers of TAA/ATAA-certified workers, you may follow these steps:

1. Access the DOL ETA website by going to www.doleta.gov
2. Select Trade Act Programs from the menu bar on the right
3. Click on the Determinations link found in the last paragraph
4. Click on the TAA Petition Determinations link. You will then have the option to search by petition number, state, company name, or Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) number for the decision regarding the petition
5. Once you select your search criteria, click on Get TAA Information
6. Results of the search are returned with the following information: details about the certification number, company name, location, petitioners, date of petition, decision, impact date and certification expiration date

* Note that all petitions listed on the website have effective dates.

Please keep in mind that this will connect you to a likely HCTC eligible population, however the HCTC program is the overall verifier of eligibility for this tax credit.

* The information provided in this newsletter is only applicable to TAA/ATAA recipients and not to individuals eligible for the HCTC that are receiving pensions from the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation.

